

New Year's Special Issue - 1993
Issue No. 4



CROW'S NEST

Submitted by Stephen Decatur Rohde

MANUFACTURER'S ERROR - USED ARMY SIGNAL CORPS DEVICE INSTEAD OF NAVY SIGNALMAN, SILVER BULLION EAGLE & SPECIALTY MARK.



MANUFACTURER'S SAMPLE

AVIATION YEOMAN - NEVER AUTHORIZED BY U.S. NAVY - NO SUCH RATING EVER EXISTED. PROBABLY MADE IN WWI; STYLE IS THAT OF THE 1913-1941 RATINGS. PURPLE BLUE EAGLE, SPECIALTY MARK, AND CHEVRONS. CHEVRONS ARE FELT, MACHINE SEWN TO WHITE PATCH. S.D.R.

UNAUTHORIZED

AVIATION GREEN RATING BADGE FOR AVIATION ENLISTED PILOT. THERE WAS NO CALL IN USN REGS FOR A DRESS AVIATION GREEN P.O. RATING BADGE. ALL WERE TO BE NAVY BLUE EMBROIDERED EAGLE, SPECIALTY MARK & CHEVRONS ON AVIATION GREEN. THIS DRESS RATING HAS HAND EMBROIDERED BULLION EAGLE & SPECIALTY MARK WITH GOLD LACE CHEVRONS. STEPHEN DECATUR ROME



Dave Sullivan sent us these interesting badges. They're WWII vintage Officers' cooks and stewards. Three are the usual white on navy-blue, & one is bullion on blue.



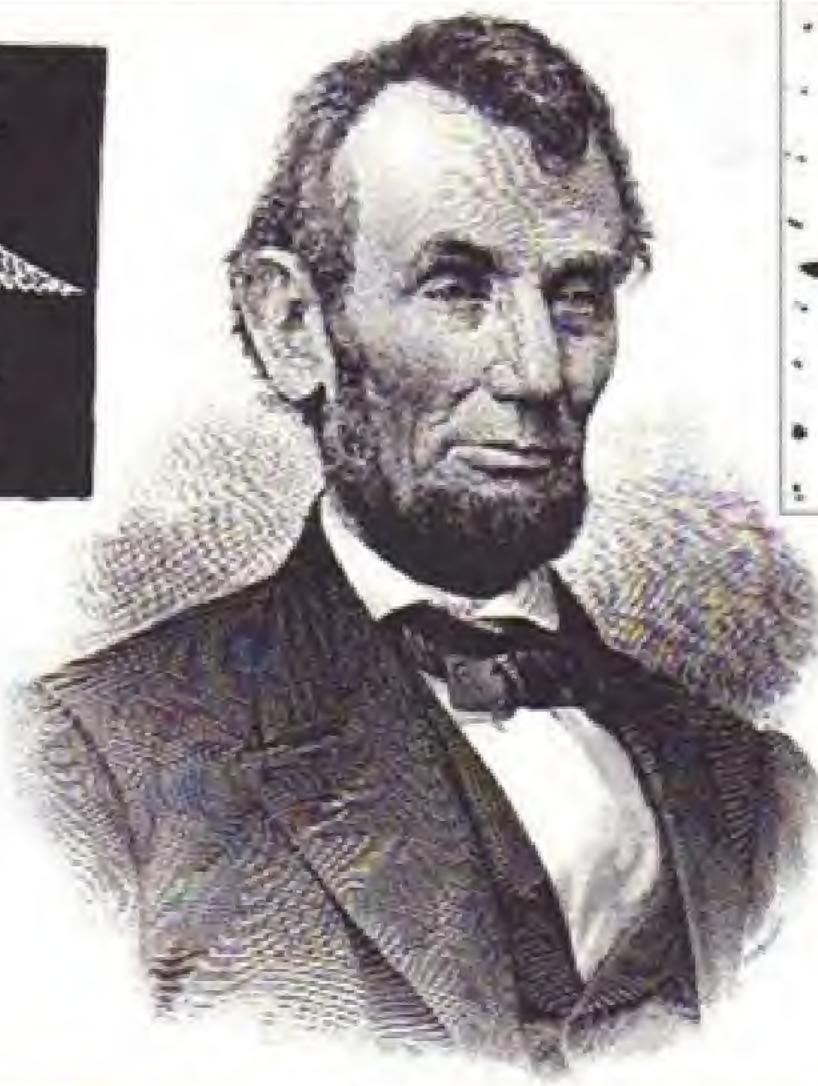
FAMOUS FIRST FACTS UNDER PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S ADMINISTRATION:

Medal of Honor awarded to a Marine was presented to Sergeant John Mackie by Commander Henry Rolando under authorization of General Order No. 17 dated 10 July 1862. During the attack on Fort Darling at Drewrys Bluff, James River, Va., on 15 May 1862, Mackie rallied the Marine Guard on the U.S.S. "Galena" after the entire Third Division manning four 10-inch Dahlgren guns and 100-pound rifles was killed or wounded. He cleared the deck and resumed the action without awaiting orders.

Medal of Honor awarded to a member of the Naval Service was authorized by act of Congress on 21 December 1861 (12 Stat.L.330), which authorized 200 medals for gallantry in action and other seamanlike qualities during the Civil War. The first awards were made to 36 recipients by General Order No. 11 of 3 April 1863. The first heroic deed for which the Medal of Honor was awarded was performed by John Williams, captain of the maintop of the U.S.S. "Pawnee" during an attack on Matthiss Point on 25 June 1861.

General to become a rear admiral was Samuel Pocahontas Carter, who organized the Tenn. Brigade and became a brigadier general of volunteers on 1 May 1862. He was breveted a major general on 13 March 1865, for gallantry and meritorious service and was mustered out of volunteer service on 15 January 1866. On 23 June 1865, was a lieutenant commander in charge of the gunboat "Monocacy" on the Asiatic station. Was appointed rear admiral on 16 May 1882, and retired on 6 August 1882.

Naval officer to become an admiral was David Glasgow Farragut, who received his appointment on 25 July 1866. Previously by act of Congress, on 16 July 1862 (12 Stat.L. 583) Farragut had been given the rank of rear admiral, and on 13 December 1864, had received the title of vice admiral.



UNITED STATES NAVY



COCKED HAT FOR COMMISSIONED
OFFICERS BELOW THE RANK OF
REAR ADMIRAL



MANDER WITH THE RANK OF COM-
MANDER AND ABOVE. THE CAP IS
THE SAME AS THE BLUE FOR THE
RESPECTIVE RANKS WITH THE EXCER-
TION OF HAVING A WHITE COVER IN
LIEU OF THE BLUE COVER.



COCKED HAT FOR COMMISSIONED
OFFICERS OF FLAG RANK



BLUE CAP FOR OFFICERS OF
THE LINE OF RANK OF CAPTAIN
AND COMMANDER



BLUE CAP FOR OFFICERS OF
THE STAFF OF FLAGS
AND COMMANDER



BLUE CAP FOR WARRANT
OFFICERS



BLUE CAP FOR CHAPLAINS OF
THE RANK OF CAPTAIN AND COM-
MANDER



BLUE CAP DEVICE FOR ALL
COMMISSIONED OFFICERS



BLUE CAP DEVICE FOR ALL
COMMISSIONED OFFICERS



BLUE CAP DEVICE FOR ALL
COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

CAP DEVICE FOR ALL
COMMISSIONED OFFICERS



MASTER
DIVER



DIVER 1ST CLASS



DIVER 2ND CLASS



SALVAGE
DIVER



DEEP SEA DIVER



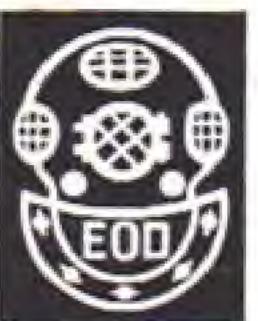
UNDERWATER
DEMOLITION



SCUBA DIVER



EXPLOSIVE
ORDNANCE
DISPOSAL



We thought you might like to see most of the authorized and unauthorized U.S. Navy diver's badges, white on navy-blue. We do not know the reason for these shapes! The National Geographic Magazine (October 1943 & December 1944) shows them with bottom of diving helmet pointed instead of rounded. Other variations exist, if you have anything different from the above and please send us a photocopy of these. If you have illustrations of diver's badges of other nations, please send xerxes too!!!

Sarge



AVIATION PHOTOGRAPHER'S MATE UNAUTHORIZED RATING NYEC 1943

USN OBSERVER (NAVIGATION) WING

BULLION HAND EMBROIDERED WING,
THE CENTER IS HARD TO IDENTIFY
WHEN MADE OF BULLION WIRE. IT
IS A COMPASS ROSE. ONLY IN USE
31 MARCH 1945 - 18 MARCH 1947.



CAN YOU IDENTIFY???

WHITE ON NAVY BLUE WOOL,
CROSSED NAVAL RIFLES ABOVE
A QUARTERMASTER WHEEL. IS
THIS FOR A FOREIGN NAVY?



EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSALMAN
(FIRST CLASS) NEVER AUTHORIZED
NOTE FIVE POINTED STAR POINT DOWN
ALSO THE POSITION OF THE BOMB
AND TORPEDO ARE REVERSED.

(SILVER BULLION EMBROIDERED ON
NAVY BLUE TWILL)

INSERT AT TOP OF PAGE #3
OF STACEY'S BOOK

STEPHEN D. RONDE
927 E. HOMESTEAD ROAD
SUNNYVALE, CA 94087

FAMOUS FIRST FACTS

The first naval officer to become "Admiral of the Navy" was Admiral George Dewey, who served from 3 March 1899, until his death, 16 January 1917. The rank was conferred by act of Congress, passed 2 March 1899 (30 Stat. I.995).



QUARTERMASTER, AVIATION

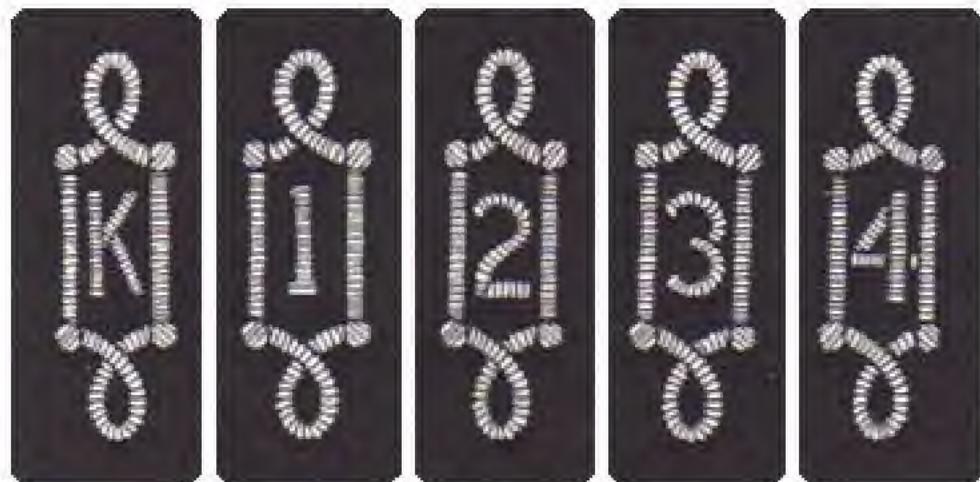
Dave Sullivan wrote and sent for us to see, on the right, a very well preserved rating badge that is khaki background. He bought this one and another on blue and with red chevrons, ten years ago for \$35.00 each! What a bargain!

This was worn between 1918-1921. It is probably one of the rarest of rating badges? Dave Sullivan served in the U.S.W.C.

U.S. LIGHTHOUSE SERVICE

Insignia for Lighthouse Keepers and Watchmen, Light Stations & Depot Keepers. 1 for Keeper, 1 for First Assistant Keeper, 2 for Second Assistant Keeper, 3 for Third Assistant Keeper and 4 for Fourth Ass't Keeper. Circa 1918.

Army and Navy Uniforms and Insignia by Col. Dion Williams. N.Y.C. Frederick A. Stokes Co. Opposite page 186.



CAN YOU IDENTIFY?

THIS WAS FOUND IN THE POCKET OF A PRE WWII ENLISTED JUMPER. WHITE COTTON DUCK MATERIAL SAME AS THE JUMPER. RITCH EMBROIDERED ON RECTANGLE, SEWN ON A 7 SIDED HECKED BACKGROUND. CHEVRON IS MADE FROM PURPLE BLUE WATCH-MARK 1/4" X 2".

STEPHEN DECATUR RODIE



Does anyone know exactly when the U.S. Navy first introduced the "Dixie-Cup" cap in the navy? It has endured and though they had a replacement of it during the Viet-Nam era a few years back, it was brought back, along with the "Cracker-Jack" jumper and trousers.



Cap Device
Chief Petty Officer



Chief Master-at-Arms



Gunner's Mate Second Class



Boatswain's Mate First Class



Quartermaster Third Class



5 IN.DIA.
B.C.PATCH
COLLECTABLES



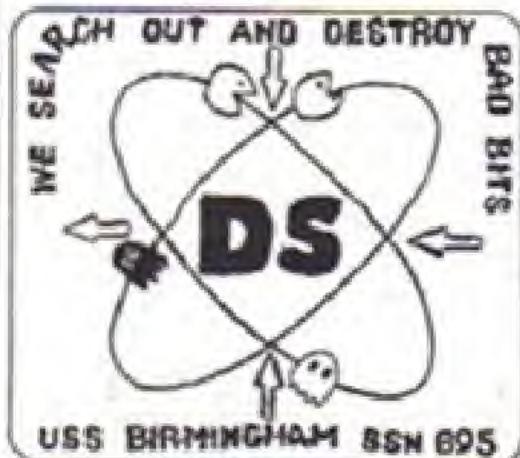
5-1/4 IN.DIA.
BUY•SELL•TRADE



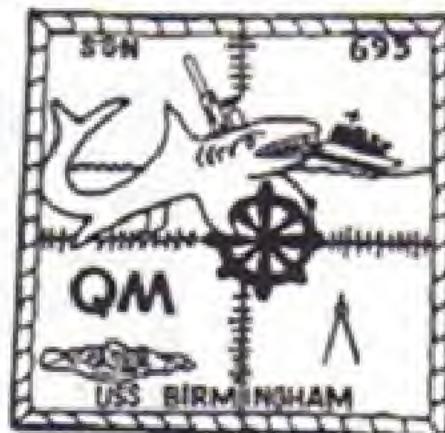
Barry L. Commons
4-1/2 IN.DIA.



5-1/8 IN.DIA.
27165 BONLEE AVE.



4-1/2 X 5IN.
CANYON COUNTRY



4 X 4 IN.
CALIFORNIA 91351



4X3 IN.
B.L.C.



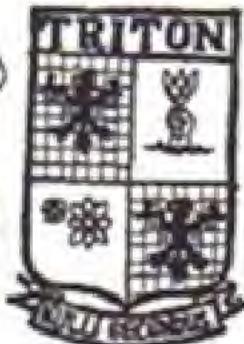
3-1/4 X 4 IN.
(805) 252-1581



4-3/8 X 2-5/8 IN.



Jim Millholland



5-1/4 INDIA.
PATCH DESIGN



5-9/16 X 4-3/16



6-1/8 X 4-3/16

Jim Millholland



ID TAGS

WISH TO CORRESPOND WITH OTHERS WHO COLLECT OR HAVE U.S. OR FOREIGN ID TAGS. WITH LARGE COLLECTION OF OVER 2500 TAGS WE MAY BE ABLE TO HELP EACH OTHER. QUESTIONS ON ID TAGS ANSWERED. CONTACT "THE DOG TAG KING"

**STEPHEN D. ROHDE
927 E HOMESTEAD RD.
SUNNYVALE, CA 94087**



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD RATING BADGES (Part III)



Fire Control Tech.



Fire Fighter (Non)



Gunner's Mate



Hospital Corpsman



Machinery Technician



Marine Science Tech.



Musician



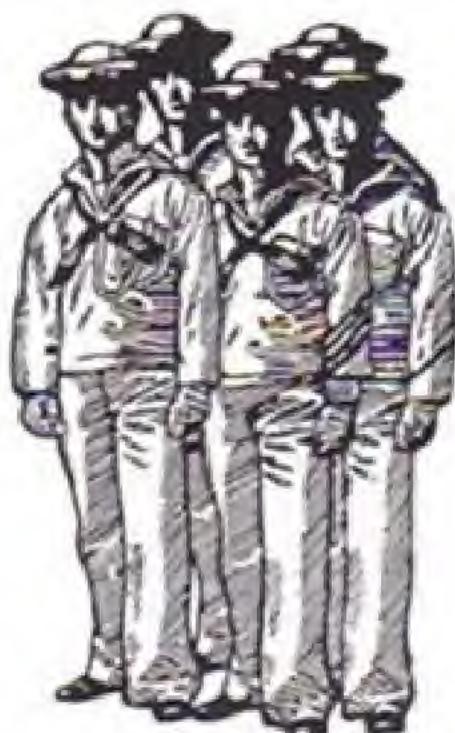
Photo Journalist



NAVAL MILITIA (1910-1922)

Dave Sullivan sent us these rare badges for Naval Militiamen back before WWI to 1922. During the Great War, naval militiamen made up to 75% of the Navy serving overseas, and they took 90% of all medals & decorations! After the war, these men formed the Naval Reserve.

It is required that a minimum of officers, 75% be qualified Navy Reservists, with 90% of enlisted personnel meet these qualifications as well. California, Illinois, and Maryland all have had a Navy Militia.





REVENUE CUTTER SERVICE

Dave Sullivan of Warrington, Pennsylvania sent in this 1910 R.C.S. rate of a Master-at-Arms & Ship's Corporal which was unusual as its white chevrons have an underlay of red, a blue eagle and shield on white background.

This is the predecessor of the U.S.C.G. and it re-adopted the shield for Master-at-Arms for a rate. Perhaps this is the rarest of rare? If you have a rate that is highly unusual, we would like to show it in the Crow's Nest also! This is **YOUR** newsletter, **WE** can make a difference in **OUR** very unique newsletters. Its up to **US** all to keep the ball rolling!! Keep sending in photocopies and when used, you will be given credit.

Sarge



ASSAULT BOAT COLESWAIN (Part II)

Dave sends us this unusual variety, The arrowheads are yellow on two of these badges, the black badge with white anchors and dark arrowhead. The white background has arrowhead, and crossed anchors in all yellow!! Does anyone out there have a badge, or rate that is different in color? Does anyone know why they made them like this?



CONSTRUCTION BATTALION (1942-1944)

Dave Sullivan sent in this CPO's rate which bore the letters C.B. in block lettering.
U.S. NAVY RATING BADGES, SPECIALTY MARKS
DISTINGUISHING MARKS: 1865-1982 by John A. Stacey gives an excellent account of Seabee patches, but even this one doesn't see the light of day there, until now here!



All Hands
Oct. 1965

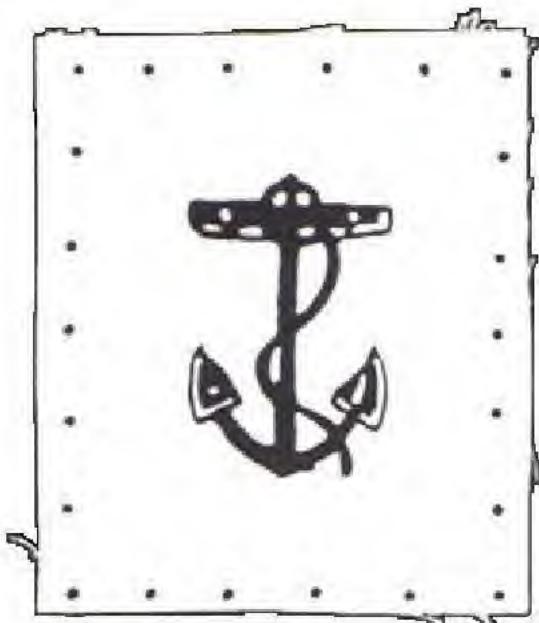


1866 REVISITED

Above is a Master-at-Arms and below a Boatswain's Mate and Coxswain. We thank Les Tucker and John A. Stacey for these patterns.

These were worn according to watch, for Coxswain or Boatswain's Mate, & Master-at-Arms also wore it, but on both sleeves at a position corresponding to the gold star worn by an officer's sleeve.

Sarge



BULLION EAGLE RATING BADGES & OTHERS (Part III)

U.S. NAVY RATING BADGES, SPECIALTY MARKS, DISTINGUISHING MARKS: 1885-1982 by John described these well as mentioned earlier in Part I and Part II of this article. We are also including non-bullion eagle rating badges as well. Part IV will show more of the same. If you'd like to see Part V, it is up to every man to do his duty, a photocopy of your rate is welcomed and we'll faithfully illustrate it and if wanted also, you can ask for and receive the 11" X 17" volumepaper drawing many times larger than size. There is a seemingly unlimited variety of these crows, and we'd be grateful to you if you'll help us expand what we already know. Credit given to you for your assistance when it appears in art form.

Sarge





MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER OF THE COAST GUARD

Thanks again to Dave Sullivan of Warminster, Pennsylvania for sharing these special rate badges with us, both very exclusive and really one-of-a-kind as there is only one each, the top CPO of the U.S.N. and U.S.C.G. which were instituted in 1968. According to John A. Stacey, author of U.S. NAVY RATING BADGES, SPECIALTY MARKS, DISTINGUISHING MARKS, 1885 - 1982, says that the first such rate was worn by MCPO of the Navy Black who had a pair of crossed cannon below the eagle and later MCPO of the Navy Chittet wore a winged airplane propellor under his eagle, in 1972 by a one inch gold star, point downwards!! The U.S. Coast Guard reinstated their NWI Master-at-Arms shield in place of a star which is also gold, worn by their MCPO of the USCG. No doubt that some of these rates are made especially for the demand of collectors! Dave has of course the real thing here. You will see a lot of great badges on other pages of the Crow's Nest newsletter. We need more material like he is sharing with us.



MASTER CHIEF PETTY OFFICER OF THE NAVY

PLATE 28—UNITED STATES MARITIME SERVICE



DECK OFFICER AND ENGINEER
OFFICER BELOW THE RANK OF CAPTAIN



CAP DEVICE
COMMISSIONED OFFICERS AND WARRANT OFFICERS



PURSER



ENGINEER
(CAPTAIN RANGE)



MEDICAL



RADIO



STEWARD



ADMINISTRATIVE LINE OFFICER



HOSPITAL



CHAPLAIN



SUPPLY

PLATE 40—UNITED STATES MEDALS AND BADGES



DISTINGUISHED MARKSMAN
NAVY



DISTINGUISHED PISTOL SHOT
NAVY



EXPERT RIFLEMAN MEDAL
NAVY



EXPERT TEAM RIFLEMAN
NAVY



FLEET
RIFLEMAN
NAVY



U.S. COAST GUARD EXPERT
COAST GUARD



EXPERT PISTOL SHOT
NAVY



FLEET PISTOL SHOT
NAVY



U.S. COAST GUARD EXPERT
COAST GUARD



SUB NET TENDER BADGE

Dave Sullivan of Warrington, Pa. sent this in and mentioned it is a real one and they go for about \$250 to \$350 in price. If you can get someone to sell their badge! A/K/A a Harbor Net Tender, made and sold in WW2 unofficially for those in a specialised group and appeared in both blue on white & white on blue.

EX-APPRENTICE

Dave Sullivan also sent an assortment of these badges shown here, except one in red on blue, U.S. Merchant Marine in WW2 perhaps? Issued first in 1886, used until 1948. John Stacey's U.S. NAVY RATING BADGES, SPECIALTY MARKS, DISTINCTION MARKS 1885 - 1982

describes them being on an individual sailor's uniform at the neck opening of the jumper, Ex-Apprentice Mark is it's full title.

Worn mid-way between wrist and elbow on the uniforms of chief petty officers, & coats of all enlistedmen. This was given to all E.M. who has passed through the rating of apprentice. It's to bad they didn't retain, or re-issue this badge, it is very decorative and can add a plus to a uniform.



U.S.S. ALBACORE SS-569

James P. Filkosky of Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania sent us these interesting items, one is a patch that is 4-3/4" X 5-1/8" and was dark-blue on white. The other item is a matchbook cover.

Jim said the submarine was in the mothball fleet (Philadelphia)

and believed to have been used mainly as a test sub by the U.S. Navy.

We'd really like to show your favorite ship or sub patches here also. Send a photocopy and receive the original valumpaper drawing upon request. Sarge



JAMES P. FILKOSKY
MECHANICSBURG, PA.



GLITZ! GLITZ! GLITZ!

Seventeen different rates are now available in glitz, write for special prices and let us know which specialties you'll want. Silver-like thread was used to create these insignia and they boldly stand out and are padded.

Write also for my list as I'm also in possession of rare or hard-to-find rates, i.e., U.M., QM (A), M.A.A., A.P., Etc.
THE STOREKEEPER, P.O.Box 117
Lee's Summit, Mo. 64063-0117
(816) 524-7200

Example to viewer's right:)

WANTED! Photocopies of your ship's patches, rates, and other sea service insignias.
Sarge Booker, (Crow's Nest),
POB 881, San Fernando, Calif.
91340-0881

Dave Sullivan of 888 Stallion Road,
Warrington, PA 18976 needs green on red
(rayen) service (U.S.M.C.) chevrons as
shown here, one each:



U.S. M.C.



SLOP CHEST



Storekeeper



WANTED: Aviation Pilot rating badge on aviation green cloth. Need both gold/yellow wing on blue wing versions. Also needed are Specialist H (any color, any rate) and Chief Pharmacists' Mate on khaki with red cross, green chevrons and eagle. John Stacey, 11703 Old Fort Rd., Fort Washington Maryland 20744